

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q80302

Yoshikazu TAKAMATSU, et al.

Appln. No.: 10/798,359

Group Art Unit: 3679

Confirmation No.: 5625

Examiner: James M. HEWITT

Filed: March 12, 2004

For: JOINT FOR DUPLEX PIPES

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after either a Final Office Action, Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application (whichever is earlier), but before payment of the Issue Fee, and therefore the fee of \$180.00 under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is being remitted, and a Statement Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e).

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for listed foreign language references, Applicant encloses herewith a copy of a Communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application (Japanese Office Action dated September 24,

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2008) citing such documents, together with an English-language version of the Communication indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign patent office.

It is noted that the two (2) references(JP-U-60-106504 and JP-U-01-126489) cited in the Report were previously listed on the PTO/SB/08 form submitted with the Information Disclosure Statement filed in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on August 18, 2007, and May 27, 2008, along with copies of the foreign references.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The U.S. PTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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WASHINGTON DC SUGHRUE/265550

65565

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: December 18, 2008

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STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
Sir:

The undersigned hereby states, upon information and belief:

That each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement filed concurrently herewith was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of said Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

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